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DOCUMENT VIII.

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Evangelical Alliance

FOR THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

1873.

OFFICE:

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FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE American Evangelical Alliance.

THE Fifth Annual Meeting of the American Evangelical Alliance was held Monday, January 27, 1873, at 4 o'clock P.M., in the Parlors of the Young Men's Christian Association Building, New York. The President of the Society, Hon. William E. Dodge, occupied the Chair, and Rev. S. W. Crittenden acted as Recording Secretary. Prayer was offered by the Rev. John Thomson, D.D.

The Honorary Secretaries presented the Fifth Annual Report, which was adopted, and ordered to be printed and distributed as Document No. VIII. It is as follows :

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

During the last year the preparations for the Sixth General Conference of the Evangelical Alliance, to be held in New York during the first ten days of next October, have been resumed, and are now vigorously carried forward. A vast amount of labor, care, and responsibility will still be required to bring this enterprise, the first of the kind undertaken in this country, to a successful close.

MISSION TO EUROPE.

By appointment of the Executive Committee, the Acting Hon. Secretary sailed for Europe last May, with authority to make the necessary arrangements with the Foreign Alliances for the General Conference, and to secure the attendance and co-operation of forty or fifty distinguished divines, scholars, and philanthropists previously selected by the Committee, and including those who had accepted the same invitation in 1869. He visited Scotland, Ireland, England, France, Switzerland, Germany, and Holland. He attended and addressed the General Assemblies in Edinburgh, and Belfast, the Mission Festival at Basle, the International Young Men's Christian Association Meeting at Amsterdam, and a number of private Alliance Conferences in London, Paris, Neufchatel, Berne, Bonn, Berlin, Utrecht, and other places. He called on the gentlemen whom he was directed to invite, or

corresponded with them when they were out of his reach, and arranged with them the part which they are to take in the Conference.

Our Delegate was everywhere received with the same Christian kindness and courtesy as on his first mission in 1869. He found that the interest in the General Conference had increased rather than diminished. The energy and perseverance of the American branch in resuming the project, in spite of two sore disappointments and apparent failures, commanded the admiration of our friends in Europe, and filled them with a double sense of moral obligation to aid us by their personal presence and co-operation.

With a few exceptions the invitation was cordially accepted, and those who declined did so only for personal reasons, and they requested our representative to convey to the American Alliance their sincere thanks, and the assurance of their sympathy with the objects of the Conference. In their places others were provisionally proposed, subject to the ratification of the Executive Committee, which has since been obtained.

ACTION OF THE BRITISH COUNCIL.

The Council of the British Organization, at a special meeting held in London, June 20, 1872, took the following action :

Moved by Lord Alfred Churchill, seconded by the Rev. Wm. Arthur, M.A.,

Resolved, That the Council, having heard the statement and explanation of the Rev. Philip Schaff, D.D., cordially accept the proposal of their American brethren to resume arrangements for holding the next General Conference of Christians of all nations in New York in 1873, and will use their best efforts to secure the success of that Conference; and further, the Council would express the pleasure it had afforded them to welcome again among them their beloved friend deputed from the Evangelical Alliance of the United States, and they thank him for his able and fraternal representation of the views and wishes of our brethren in America, assuring him of their earnest prayer that the proposed Convention may prove a happy and profitable season of international and fraternal fellowship, and of lasting benefit to the nations and to the cause of our Lord and Redeemer JESUS CHRIST.

Similar actions were taken by other branches, which it is unnecessary to present in full.

THE FRENCH BRANCH.

A serious difficulty presented itself in France, owing to the unfortunate alienation between French and German Christians

in consequence of the late war, which was the cause of the failure of the Conference in 1870. It was apprehended at first that the French brethren would not meet with the Germans, even on the neutral ground of America.

But to the great relief and joy of your agent, the invitation was cordially and unanimously accepted at a full Conference held in the Chapelle du St. Esprit, June 25, 1872, during the sessions of the National Reformed Synod of France.

Messrs. Bersier, Monod, Babut, Vallette, Fisch, Lorriaux, Jean Bost, and others who attended the meeting, advocated the acceptance without any reservation or condition. The venerable Mr. Guizot, too, who at his advanced age of 84 years is unable to cross the Atlantic, assured our Secretary of his deep interest in the Conference and his willingness to convey to it by letter his best wishes.

Since that time a meeting of the Evangelical Alliance held in Geneva in September, 1872, and attended chiefly by French and Swiss Protestants, forwarded to the American Alliance a fraternal address, signed by the lamented Dr. Merle d' Aubigné, Adrien Naville, Ch. Barde, Th. Necker, A. Kinnaird, and many other well-known names, expressing their profound interest and best wishes and prayers for the approaching meetings in New York, that they "may be enriched by the gifts of the HOLY SPIRIT and become a new Pentecost for the Church of CHRIST" (*que vos conférences soient pour l'Eglise de Christ une Pentecôte nouvelle*).

It is the sincere desire of American Christians that the Conference, among other good results, may aid in effecting a lasting reunion of the Christians in France with those in Germany. May the recent peaceful arbitration of international difficulties by the tribunal of Geneva, and by the decision of the Emperor of Germany, set an example for imitation to all other nations, and diminish war and bloodshed among men.

LIST OF FOREIGN DELEGATES.

We will now add a list of those foreign delegates who have promised to attend and are now preparing work for the General Conference.

Rev. Joseph Angus, D.D., Regent's Park College, London.

Rev. William Arnot, Edinburgh.

Rev. William Arthur, M.A., London.*

Prof. J. P. Astié, Theological School, Lausanne, Switzerland.

Count Andreas von Bernstorff, Berlin.

* If the state of his health will permit.

- Rev. Eugène Bersier, Paris.
 Prof. Blaikie, D.D., New College, Edinburgh.
 Prof. David Brown, D.D., Aberdeen, Scotland.
 Rev. John Charles Brown, D.D., Edinburgh.
 Rev. John Cairns, D.D., Berwick, England,
 Prof. Henry Calderwood, LL.D., University of Edinburgh.
 Rev. Antonio Carrasco, Madrid.
 Prof. A. H. Charteris, D.D., Dean of the Chapel Royal, Edinburgh.
 Prof. Theo. Christlieb, D.D., University of Bonn, Prussia.
 Rev. Franck Coulin, D.D., Geneva.
 Rev. _____, St. Petersburg.
 Prof. John Eadie, D.D., Glasgow.
 Rev. G. Fisch, D.D., Paris.
 Prof. F. Godet, D.D., Neufchatel, Switzerland.
 Prof. Herm. von der Goltz, D.D., University of Basle, Switzerland.
 Rev. Dr. Grundemann, near Potsdam, Germany.
 Rev. Thos. Guthrie, D.D., Edinburgh.*
 Rev. J. C. Harrison, D.D., London.
 General Superintendent, W. Hoffman, D.D., Berlin.
 Prof. Paul Kleinert, Ph. D., University of Berlin.
 Prof. W. Kraft, D.D., University of Bonn.
 Rev. H. Krummacher, Brandenburg, Germany.
 Prof. Stanley Leathes, M.A., King's College, London.
 Hon. J. W. Van Loon, Amsterdam, Holland.
 Père Hyacinthe Loyson, Paris.
 Prof. Jean Monod, D.D., University of Montauban, France.
 Rev. John Mullens, D.D., Sec. of the London Missionary Society.
 Prof. J. J. Van Oosterzee, D.D., University of Utrecht, Holland.
 Prof. J. G. Pfleiderer, Ph. D., Kornthal, Wurttemberg.
 Rev. Matteo Prochet, Genoa, Italy.
 Prof. C. Pronier, D.D. Theological Seminary, Geneva.
 Prof. Rainy, D.D., New College, Edinburgh.
 Rev. James H. Rigg, D.D., Wesleyan College, Westminster.
 Very Rev. R. Payne Smith, D.D., Dean of Canterbury.
 Rev. N. T. Stevenson, Dublin.
 Rev. John Stoughton, D.D., London.
 Rev. M. Cohen Stuart, Rotterdam, Holland.
 Prof. Constantine von Tischendorf, D.D., LL.D., Leipzig.
 Prof. Charles Torén, Dean of Upsala, Sweden.

A number of other eminent men expressed a desire to take an active part in the Conference, but may, we fear, be prevented by their duties or other urgent reasons, from crossing the Atlantic, and have therefore been omitted from the above list. Among these we may mention Sir Harry Verney, M.P., Claydon House, Bucks; Prof. Plumptre, D.D., King's College, London; Prof. Rosseuw de St. Hilaire, Versailles; Dr. Pressensé, Paris; Bishop Martensen, D.D., Copenhagen; Drs. Fairbairn and Buchanan,

* If the state of his health will permit.

Glasgow; Dr. Wichern, Hamburg; Prof. Dorner, D.D., Berlin; Director Fabri, D.D., Barmen.

The Committee on the Programme are also authorized to invite the officers of the foreign branches of the Alliance, a number of Christian ministers and scholars from Europe, and missionaries from heathen lands, to attend the Conference, without asking them to prepare papers (of which we have enough in prospect), and without making ourselves responsible for their travelling expenses.

In addition to these invited delegates of both classes, we may expect a number of others, who will be sent by their respective Branch Alliances, or who may come in compliance with the general invitation. To judge from the lists sent us in 1870, before the outbreak of the war, we ought to be prepared to entertain from three to five hundred guests from foreign countries, but we shall be better able to ascertain the number by the first of May next, when all the names are to be sent in.

ARRANGEMENT WITH TRANSATLANTIC STEAMSHIP COMPANIES.

Your Commissioner has succeeded in making favorable arrangements with several Transatlantic Steamship Companies for a liberal reduction of their usual fare to delegates, and the thanks of the Alliance are due to the following Companies :

The White Star Line, sailing weekly from Liverpool to New York.

The Anchor Line, sailing from Glasgow and Londonderry.

The North German Lloyd, sailing from Bremen and Southampton.

The Hamburg Line, sailing from Hamburg and Havre.

The General Transatlantic Co., sailing from Havre and Brest.

We hope to be able soon to add to this list the Cunard Line, and the Williams & Guion Line, with whom negotiations are still pending.

AMERICAN DELEGATES.

The Executive Committee have also invited to active participation in the Conference about fifty distinguished American divines, scholars, and philanthropists, who it is thought will worthily represent the different evangelical denominations, and religious, literary, and benevolent interests of the country. There is little doubt of their acceptance, since most of them had already accepted a similar invitation two years ago, and in part prepared papers for the Conference.

The various Auxiliary Societies throughout the United States

will be entitled to send a number of their own delegates, in proportion to their size and contribution towards the expenses of the Conference.

THE PROGRAMME.

A programme, with a full list of topics to be discussed, and of foreign and American speakers invited to prepare the intellectual work of the Conference, will be published as soon as all have been definitely heard from.

The topics are the same as those previously agreed upon, viz.: Reports and discussions on the state of religion in different countries; Christian Union; Christianity and Infidelity; Christian Life; Protestantism and Romanism; Christianity and Civil Government; Foreign and Domestic Missions; Christianity and Social Evils.

PUBLIC INVITATION.

The Executive Committee have just sent abroad the following invitation to the General Conference:

NEW YORK, *January, 1873.*

The Evangelical Alliance in the United States of America to the Sister Organizations in Great Britain, Canada, Germany, France, Switzerland, Holland, Belgium, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Turkey, Greece, India, and other countries,—Grace, Mercy, and Peace from GOD our FATHER and from the LORD JESUS CHRIST be with you all.

Earnestly desiring fellowship with all that in every place call on the name of JESUS CHRIST our LORD, both theirs and ours, we invite you to attend by your delegates a General Conference of the different Organizations of the One Evangelical Alliance to be held in the City of New York, commencing October 2, and continuing till October 12, 1873.

We need not explain to you how it was that we were obliged to abandon the projected Conference in the same city two years ago. The very circumstance which prevented delegates from coming from two of the great nations of Europe, whom we are desirous to see represented here, makes us the more anxious, now that hostilities have ceased, to do all in our power to unite in spirit and in work Christians of all countries.

Not long ago there were misunderstandings and difficulties between this country and that European country with which we are most intimately connected by language and literature. These have been happily terminated by an Arbitration, constructed in the spirit of the religion of love and peace—an Arbitration which constitutes an era in the history of Christian civilization.

Remembering our descent from the nationalities of Europe, we esteem it an honor to have a visit from the representatives of the lands of our forefathers. Historically, Christianity has come through you to us, and we long for a closer connection between Christians of the old world and the new. The errors which have marred the usefulness of the Churches, such as Infidelity and Rationalism on the one hand, and Superstition and

Ritualism on the other, have not sprung up indigenously among us, but have been transported from the other side of the Atlantic; and we wish evangelical Christians from other lands to assist us in contending with them. It may also not be uninteresting or unprofitable for you to inspect for yourselves the way in which religious life is developed in the United States; and we are most anxious to see you face to face, and to hear from your own lips what GOD has done for you and by you.

At this Conference we hope to promote the desire for a closer union among Christians, to remove obstacles out of the way of their co-operation, to lead them to combine in prayer, praise, and evangelistic work, and thus to exhibit the essential unity of the body of CHRIST.

We propose soon to issue a Programme of our intended proceedings, from which it will be seen that papers are to be read and addresses delivered by competent persons, ministers and laymen, scholars and philanthropists, from various countries, on all the questions discussed in the present day in the Church of CHRIST, and bearing on the spread of truth and the suppression of error and vice. By a division into sections in the reading of the more elaborate papers, space and opportunity will be found for instruction and discussion on special topics in which individuals and portions of the Church are deeply interested.

Urgently pressing upon your favorable consideration our invitation, given first through our esteemed brother Dr. Schaff our representative, and now in this letter, we ask you specially to join us in praying that He who disposes all events and has promised to be present with His people always, may bring your delegates to our shores in health and peace, and fill all hearts with His love at our meeting.

Yours in CHRIST, our common Lord and Saviour,

WILLIAM E. DODGE,
President.

THOS. D. ANDERSON, HERVEY D. GANSE, H. B. RIDGAWAY, NOAH HUNT SCHENCK,	W. IVES BUDINGTON, S. IRENAEUS PRIME, PHILIP SCHAFF, JOS. P. THOMPSON,
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Honorary Secretaries.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IN RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

The recent efforts of the Evangelical Alliance to secure religious liberty in the Empire of RUSSIA have been crowned at least with partial success. It is true the prohibitory laws against secession from the national Russo-Greek Church still remain, and no Missionary labors among the vast number of the heathen and Mohammedan population of the Empire are allowed except under the auspices of the same Church ; but the grievances in the Baltic provinces, which were the immediate cause of the united Alliance deputations to the Czar in 1871, and the oppressive measures against Lutherans desiring to return to the Church of their fathers, have since been stopped by order of the Emperor. A high

Official, himself a member of the Russo-Greek Church, estimates that about 30,000 Lutherans in one province alone (Livonia) have been allowed to return without being molested by legal process. A member of the Swiss branch of the Alliance who travelled through the Baltic provinces of Russia after the deputation, reports to the Foreign Secretary of the British Alliance as follows (see *Evangel. Christendom*, London, Jan., 1873, p. 23) :

"Your Council will be thankful to hear that the great effort which the European and American branches of the Evangelical Alliance made last year in behalf of the Protestants, has resulted in greater blessings than even the most hopeful could have anticipated. Not only is there at present full religious liberty enjoyed by these provinces, so that hundreds and thousands of persons who, by fraud or by force, had been induced to join the Greek Church, now return in increasing numbers to the Protestant Communion ; but the movement of the Evangelical Alliance has also had the effect of bringing about an earnest advocacy of religious liberty throughout the country by many of the St. Petersburg and Moscow journals, which were loudest in condemning the steps taken by the Evangelical Alliance. Since the true and disinterested motives of the Evangelical Alliance have been fully understood, your Society has occupied a high position in the minds of enlightened Russians."

On the strength of these reports, the British Council has seen proper to address a memorial of thanks to the Czar for the clemency shown to his subjects in the Baltic provinces, and to petition him for such a change of laws on the national statute book as will remove hereafter all complaints of oppression for the sake of conscience in any part of the Empire. If any further action should appear advisable in this case, it is proper that it should be taken by all the branches of the Alliance, which united in the deputation to the Czar.

The recent persecution of Christians (mostly of the Roman Catholic faith) in JAPAN has also been brought to the serious attention of the American Alliance partly by American Missionaries in Japan, partly by the British Council. A Committee was appointed to confer with the special Japanese Embassy, which arrived in Washington last spring to negotiate an international treaty with our Government. Soon afterwards the news arrived from Japan that the persecution had stopped ; and at a recent interview of a deputation of the British Council with the Japanese Embassadors, now in London (Dec. 10, '72), his Excellency Iwakura, Prime Minister of Japan, assured the deputation that "it was the desire of his Government, by education and other means, to advance the civilization of the Japanese

people, and to remove all obstacles in the way of religious freedom." It is to be hoped that the obnoxious laws against the Christian religion will soon be formally abolished, and that Christian governments in making treaties with the Empire of Japan will enact this as a condition of intercourse. We await with great interest the result of the mighty changes now going on in that distant Empire, many of whose sons are receiving a Christian education in our institutions.

THE WEEK OF PRAYER.—UNION MEETINGS.

The regular work of the Alliance goes on without interruption. The Week of Prayer was observed during the first week of January in the Madison Square Church (Rev. Dr. Adams') at New York, and in other cities of the Union, by large assemblies, and much spiritual benefit is expected from these solemn services.

The week of prayer was appropriately closed by a union meeting in the same Church, where, after prayer by Dr. Prime, and an introductory speech by the Hon. Wm. E. Dodge, the Acting Secretary presented the results of his recent mission to Europe in behalf of the General Conference, and Count Andreas von Bernstorff, of Berlin, and Professor Hurst, D.D., of Drew Theological Seminary, made appropriate addresses.

A similar meeting in behalf of the General Conference was previously held in the Church of the Pilgrims, Brooklyn, in which Drs. Schenck, Storrs, Budington, Rev. H. W. Beecher, and the Acting Secretary took part.

The monthly meetings of the Executive Committee are well attended, and characterized by a delightful harmony of spirit. These meetings of leading ministers and members of the various Evangelical denominations of New York aid in increasing Christian unity and co-operation among them.

THE FINANCES.

The finances of the Alliance require your special attention this year, as the expenses of the Conference will necessarily be very large. This important department has been committed to a most trustworthy Committee, consisting of the Hon. Nathan Bishop, LL.D., the Hon. Wm. E. Dodge, J. C. Havemeyer, Esq., S. B. Schieffelin, Esq., John A. Stewart, Esq., James M. Brown, Esq., and Caleb T. Rowe, Esq. This Committee invited the Pastors of New York and Brooklyn to a consultation, at

which it was the unanimous opinion of all present that it will be better to depend, in this matter, upon the interest and influence of Pastors than to employ a regular financial agent at considerable expense. The Pastors of the above-named cities have cordially promised to aid the Committee to the extent of their ability.

But inasmuch as the General Conference has a national character, and will benefit all the Churches, it is hoped and expected that contributions will be made from all parts of the country. At least \$20,000 will be needed, in addition to the \$10,000 now in hand. Contributions may be sent directly to CALEB T. ROWE, Esq., Treasurer, No. 5 Bible House, New York.

CONCLUSION.

Our Acting Secretary, who has conducted the affairs of the Society for the last two years and a half, feels more and more that the work, care, and responsibility of the office are too much for him to bear any longer in connection with his other daily duties which he cannot neglect. In fact he never contemplated carrying so large a burden, but only consented to superintend the office work until the preparations for the General Conference should be resumed. The British Council employs, even for its ordinary work, two regular salaried Secretaries with a number of Honorary Secretaries; and if preparations are to be made for a General Conference, it calls in especial aid. We must at once secure one or more regular Secretaries, who can from now till the end of October next devote their time and strength to the extensive correspondence, and the many details of the business arrangements for the General Conference.*

Let us promptly do all we can, and leave the result confidently with God; praying that He may endow the approaching Conference with the Spirit of wisdom, power, and love, and make it a blessing to the Church and the world.

* In compliance with this suggestion the Executive Committee has since engaged, as Secretary, the Rev. Dr. Henry B. Chapin, who served the Alliance faithfully and efficiently, in the same capacity, during the summer of 1870.

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| Rev. John C. Smith, D.D., | Rev. Theodore D. Woolsey, D.D., |
| | Rev. Theodore J. Wylie, D.D. |

APPENDIX.

The Basis of the Evangelical Alliance,

ADOPTED AT THE ORGANIZATION OF THE AMERICAN BRANCH OF
THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE, IN JANUARY, 1867.

Resolved, That in forming an Evangelical Alliance for the United States, in co-operative union with other branches of the Alliance, we have no intention or desire to give rise to a new denomination or sect; nor to effect an amalgamation of churches, except in the way of facilitating personal Christian intercourse and a mutual good understanding; nor to interfere in any way whatever with the internal affairs of the various denominations; but simply to bring individual Christians into closer fellowship and co-operation, on the basis of the spiritual union which already exists in the vital relation of CHRIST to the members of His body in all ages and countries.

Resolved, That in the same spirit, we propose no new creed; but, taking broad, historical, and evangelical catholic ground, we solemnly reaffirm and profess our faith in all the doctrines of the inspired Word of GOD, and in the *consensus* of doctrines as held by all true Christians from the beginning. And we do more especially affirm our belief in the *divine-human person* and *atoning work of our LORD and SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST*, as the only and sufficient source of salvation, as the heart and soul of Christianity, and as the centre of all true Christian union and fellowship.

Resolved, That, with this explanation and in the spirit of a just Christian liberality in regard to the minor differences of theological schools and religious denominations, we also adopt, as a summary of the *consensus* of the various Evangelical Confessions of Faith, the Articles and Explanatory Statement set forth and agreed on by the Evangelical Alliance at its formation in London, 1846, and approved by the separate European organizations; which articles are as follows:

- “ 1. The divine inspiration, authority, and sufficiency of the Holy Scriptures.
2. The right and duty of private judgment in the interpretation of the Holy Scriptures.

3. The Unity of the Godhead, and the Trinity of the Persons therein.
4. The utter depravity of human nature in consequence of the Fall.
5. The incarnation of the SON of GOD, His work of atonement for the sins of mankind, and His mediatorial intercession and reign.
6. The justification of the sinner by faith alone.
7. The work of the HOLY SPIRIT in the conversion and sanctification of the sinner.
8. The immortality of the soul, the resurrection of the body, the judgment of the world by our LORD JESUS CHRIST, with the eternal blessedness of the righteous, and the eternal punishment of the wicked.
9. The divine institution of the Christian ministry, and the obligation and perpetuity of the ordinances of Baptism and the LORD's Supper.

It being, however, distinctly declared, that this brief summary is not to be regarded in any formal or ecclesiastical sense as a creed or confession, nor the adoption of it as involving an assumption of the right authoritatively to define the limits of Christian brotherhood, but simply as an indication of the class of persons whom it is desirable to embrace within the Alliance."

Constitution
OF THE
AMERICAN EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.

ADOPTED JANUARY, 1867.

ARTICLE I.

THIS Organization shall be known as THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

ARTICLE II.

The objects of this Association are: to promote evangelical union, with a view to greater success in Christian activity; to maintain and exhibit the essential unity of the Church of CHRIST; to counteract the influence of infidelity and superstition, especially in their organized forms; to assist the cause of religious freedom everywhere; to hold up the supreme authority of the Word of GOD; to urge the observance of the LORD's day; and to correct the immoral habits of society. And to accomplish these ends, it proposes to act as a *Bureau of Correspondence and Information*, obtaining facts and diffusing them, with such suggestions as may seem pertinent, always avoiding a dogmatic or legislative style, and "endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

ARTICLE III.

Any person may be introduced as a member of this Alliance, on his own application, by signing the Constitution, and assenting to the principles, the basis, and the objects of this Association.

ARTICLE IV.

The officers of this Alliance shall be a PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT, CORRESPONDING and RECORDING SECRETARIES, and a TREASURER.

ARTICLE V.

The business of this Alliance shall be conducted by a BOARD OF COUNCILLORS, including the executive officers and the Vice-Presidents—who shall be members *ex officio*—any ten of whom shall constitute a quorum of a meeting

when regularly convened; and all the officers and councillors shall be elected annually by the Alliance, shall be accountable to it, and subject to its instructions, and shall hold their places until the election of their successors. The members of the Board are empowered to fill their own vacancies; and shall meet by the appointment of the Society, or on their own adjournment, or at the call of the President, by the request or with the consent of any five councillors; provided, in the case of every special meeting, due notice shall be given for ten days through the press.

ARTICLE VI.

There shall be an EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE elected annually by the Board of Councillors, consisting, as nearly as possible, of one member from each denomination of Christians represented in the Alliance, and the executive officers of the Board; and any five of this Committee shall constitute a quorum when regularly convened.

ARTICLE VII.

The Alliance shall meet annually, at such time and place as the Board may appoint.

ARTICLE VIII.

Local organizations in the United States, adopting the principles of this Alliance, may become connected with it by a vote of the Board of Councillors, their members thus becoming individually members of this Alliance.

ARTICLE IX.

This Constitution may be altered only at an annual meeting, and by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, provided notice of the amendment be given at a previous annual meeting; unless the alteration be recommended by twenty of the Board of Councillors.